

HABS, IND, 49-IND, 29-

INDIANA
STATE

Marion (49)
COUNTY

INDIANAPOLIS
TOWN or VICINITY

49
50d

INDIANA THEATRE (IN-101)

STRUCTURE

134 West Washington St., N. side, between South Capitol & South Illinois Sts. White terra cotta front with red brick sides & rear over reinforced concrete frame, 125'4" (three-bay front) x 195', five stories plus sixth story in high blind attic, low-gabled main roof abutted by front & rear monopitch roofs with parapeted flat roof over front



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81-101b (3/78)

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY

(IN-101)

section, elaborate Churrigueresque frontispiece flanked by four-story strip windows above wide marquee; interior of theatre designed in eclectic blend of Moresque, plateresque, & Churrigueresque elements, & sixth-floor "atmospheric" ballroom designed to resemble plaza of Spanish village. Built 1927, Rubush & Hunter, architects; Alexander Sanger-nebo & Joseph Willenborg, sculptors; Randolph La Salle Coats, muralist. Auditorium altered for Cinerama 1960 & divided horizontally into two auditoria 1979, but foyer & ballroom intact. The Indiana Theatre, although altered, remains an outstanding example of the 1920s vogue for

(IN-101)

"Spanish" architecture. The immense sixth-floor ballroom exemplifies the "atmospheric" effects popular in the 1920s. 7 ext. photos (1979), 13 int. photos (1970), 5 photocopies of 1926-1927 ext. photos (including construction photos), 14 photocopies of 1927 int. photos, 10 photocopies of original 1926 architectural drawings (including elevation, sections, details); 50 data pages (1970, 1972, 1976, 1979).

Card prepared 1979.